

Review of status of Hydrographic Surveying, Nautical Charting and MSI in the NSHC area (IHO special Publication S-55)

Captain Barritt, who continues to support the IHB in development of the S-55 data-base, will present a PowerPoint brief on its current status.

He will cover the following topics:

- Status of SOLAS V arrangements in the NSHC region.
- S-55 editorial issues.
- Importance of regular update, and assistance to developing countries with this process.
- Serious SOLAS V deficiencies world-wide as a background to NSHC discussion at Agenda Item D1.

Background

NSHC attendees should have provided S-55 information as part of their National Reports, using the standard format recommended by the IHB (CL 25/2006).

The most urgent editorial issue for NSHC members is the need for separate entries where national waters lie in a number of RHC (INT charting) regions (IHB S3/1001 dated Sep 05).

If the authoritative status of the S-55 data-base is to be sustained in IMO, entries must be updated regularly. Only 44% of the populated entries have been updated during 2005-06 (11 Jul 06). Only 30% of NSHC entries have been updated.

The briefing will provide an overview of serious deficiencies in the arrangements for hydrographic services worldwide. This will provide a background for discussion of the IHOCBC work programmes and regional and bilateral initiatives under Agenda Item D1.